

**Broadband Committee
January 17, 2016**

Library

Attendees:

John Lesinski, Mike Mahoney, Alan Zuschlag, Casey Eitner, Ted Goshorn.

CIT - Sandy Terry – Contact for CIT – Background in communications and broadband and with the center for 5 years, specifically with rural broadband implementation.

Tuesday March 7th is the tentative date for the meeting with Sandy Terry. Probably around 9:30 but to be determined. Requested a location that would hold more of the public. John to determine if she can address TV White Space.

Discussion ensued regarding the necessity of a needs assessment. Different opinions between not needed, and yes in a limited fashion to get buy-in and ensure we are going in the right direction. Some folks don't know their needs and technology changes will change needs. Hybrid infrastructure is needed. Consider public/private partnerships. Likely Wireless Internet Service Providers (WISPs) will need to be part of the hybrid system.

Verizon

Fiber link in Sperryville; Unifiber Fiber link within one mile of here; Comcast comes from Front Royal and Culpeper but are 20 years old and not scheduled to be replaced. Verizon is walking out of the county in 2018 and will be done here. It's all about economics with the large companies.

Comcast

Comcast doesn't plan on growing their infrastructure due to the economics of the rural area.

Century Link

Provides phone and internet, but internet is limited at certain distances from the substation.

Obtain a presentation from Richie Burke on county emergency management towers, current coverages and future needs, resources and funding needs. **Next Meeting: February 23rd – Presentation from Richie.**

There was interest in having a presentation for the architecture from WISPs but no meeting scheduled.

The committee decided to have stakeholders meetings to take assessment of needs. Utilize one or two committee members to cover as many stakeholders as possible. Alan - BizRap.

Casey - Schools; Ted – Sprint; Casey to develop an interview draft and send to committee for their edits.

Ideas:

Consider an evening meeting to attract the youth that may want to participate and offer comments. No motion or decision.